Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1.   (ORIGINAL) A recording apparatus, comprising:

a recording section for recording information onto a recording medium;

a file system processing section for managing the information as a file using file system information having a directory hierarchy structure capable of being referenced using a path name;

a contents management information processing section for managing the directory and the file using contents management information; and

an extension information processing section for managing extension information with respect to the directory and the file,

wherein the contents management information includes:

media object management information for referencing the directory and the file using object reference information obtained by converting the path name; and

extended object management information for managing the extension information,

wherein the directory and the file are associated with the extension information via the object reference information.

2.   (ORIGINAL) The recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the extended object management information includes consistency state management information for managing a state of the directory and the file with the extension information corresponding thereto, and

when an operation is performed with respect to the directory and the file, the extension information of a type that can be processed is updated, the extension information of a type that cannot be processed is not updated, and the consistency state

management information is updated depending on a state of the consistency of the directory and the file with the extension information.

3.   (ORIGINAL) The recording apparatus according to claim 2, wherein
        the consistency state management information is provided for each media object management information, and
        the consistency state management information includes, for each extension information, at least information indicating the presence or absence of reference relationship from the extension information to the directory and the file, and information indicating whether or not the consistency of the directory and the file with the extension information corresponding thereto is assured.

4.   (ORIGINAL) The recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
        the contents management information includes first update date-and-time information,
        the extension information includes second update date-and-time information,
        when the media object management information is updated, the first update date-and-time information is updated, the same value of that of the first update date-and-time information is set to the second update date-and-time information of the extension information of a type that can be processed, and the second update date-and-time information of the extension information of a type that cannot be processed is not updated.

5.   (ORIGINAL) A recording method, comprising:
        recording contents information as a file onto a recording medium using file system information having a directory hierarchy structure capable of being referenced using a path name;
        recording contents management information for managing the directory and the file, onto the recording medium; and
        recording extension information with respect to the directory and the file, onto the recording medium,

wherein the contents management information includes:

media object management information for referencing the directory and the file using object reference information obtained by converting the path name; and

extended object management information for managing the extension information,

wherein the recording method comprises associating the directory and the file with the extension information via the object reference information.

6.   (ORIGINAL) The recording method according to claim 5, wherein the extended object management information includes consistency state management information for managing a state of the directory and the file with the extension information corresponding thereto, and

when an operation is performed with respect to the directory and the file, the recording method comprises updating the extension information of a type that can be processed, and updating the consistency state management information depending on a state of the consistency of the directory and the file with the extension information.

7.   (ORIGINAL) The recording method according to claim 6, wherein

the consistency state management information is provided for each media object management information, and

the consistency state management information includes, for each extension information, at least information indicating the presence or absence of reference relationship from the extension information to the directory and the file, and information indicating whether or not the consistency of the directory and the file with the extension information corresponding thereto is assured.

8.   (ORIGINAL) The recording method according to claim 5, wherein

the contents management information includes first update date-and-time information,

the extension information includes second update date-and-time information,

the recording method comprises:

updating the media object management information;

updating the first update date-and-time information; and

setting the same value of that of the first update date-and-time information

to the second update date-and-time information of the extension information of a type

that can be processed.

9. (ORIGINAL) A recording medium recording information, recorded with:

file system information for managing the information as a directory hierarchy

structure capable of being referenced using a path name;

contents management information for managing the directory and the file; and

extension information with respect to the directory and the file,

wherein the contents management information includes:

media object management information for referencing the directory and

the file using object reference information obtained by converting the path name; and

extended object management information for managing the extension

information,

wherein the directory and the file are associated with the extension information

via the object reference information.

10. (ORIGINAL) The recording medium according to claim 9, wherein the extended

object management information includes consistency state management information for

managing a state of the directory and the file with the extension information

corresponding thereto.

11. (ORIGINAL) The recording medium according to claim 10, wherein

the consistency state management information is provided for each media object

management information, and

the consistency state management information includes, for each extension

information, at least information indicating the presence or absence of reference

relationship from the extension information to the directory and the file, and information

indicating whether or not the consistency of the directory and the file with the extension information corresponding thereto is assured.

12. (ORIGINAL) The recording medium according to claim 9, wherein

the contents management information includes first update date-and-time information,

the extension information includes second update date-and-time information,

when the consistency of the directory and the file with the extension information corresponding thereto is assured, the same value is recorded in the first update date-and-time information and the second update date-and-time information.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A reproduction apparatus for reproducing information from the recording medium according to claim 10 [[or 11]], the apparatus comprising:

a reproduction section for reproducing the information from the recording medium;

a file system processing section for processing the file system information;

an extension information processing section for processing the extension information; and

a contents management information processing section for processing the contents management information,

wherein when processing the extension information corresponding to the directory and the file, the extension information processing section determines a procedure for processing the extension information according to a value set in the consistency state management information.

14. (ORIGINAL) A reproduction apparatus for reproducing information from the recording medium according to claim 12, the apparatus comprising:

a reproduction section for reproducing the information from the recording medium;

a file system processing section for processing the file system information;

an extension information processing section for processing the extension information; and

a contents management information processing section for processing the contents management information,

wherein when processing the extension information corresponding to the directory and the file, the extension information processing section determines a procedure for processing the extension information according to whether or not the first update date-and-time information matches the second update date-and-time information.

15.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A reproduction method for reproducing information from the recording medium according to claim 10 [[or 11]], the method comprising:

reproducing the information from the recording medium;

processing the file system information;

processing the extension information; and

processing the contents management information,

wherein the step of processing the extension information comprises determining a procedure for processing the extension information according to a value set in the consistency state management information before processing the extension information corresponding to the directory and the file.

16.   (ORIGINAL) A reproduction method for reproducing information from the recording medium according to claim 12, the method comprising:

reproducing the information from the recording medium;

processing the file system information;

processing the extension information; and

processing the contents management information,

wherein the step of processing the extension information comprises determining a procedure for processing the extension information according to whether or not the first update date-and-time information matches the second update date-and-time information before processing the extension information corresponding to the directory and the file.

17.   (ORIGINAL) A program for controlling a recording operation of a recording apparatus for recording information onto a recording medium, the program comprising an instruction for causing the recording apparatus to execute:

recording contents information as a file onto a recording medium using file system information having a directory hierarchy structure capable of being referenced using a path name;

recording contents management information for managing the directory and the file, onto the recording medium; and

recording extension information with respect to the directory and the file, onto the recording medium,

wherein the contents management information includes:

media object management information for referencing the directory and the file using object reference information obtained by converting the path name; and

extended object management information for managing the extension information,

wherein the program further comprises an instruction for causing the recording apparatus to execute associating the directory and the file with the extension information via the object reference information.

18.   (ORIGINAL) The program according to claim 17, wherein the extended object management information includes consistency state management information for managing a state of the directory and the file with the extension information corresponding thereto, and

when an operation is performed with respect to the directory and the file, the program comprises an instruction for causing the recording apparatus to execute updating the extension information of a type that can be processed, and updating the consistency state management information depending on a state of the consistency of the directory and the file with the extension information.

19.   (ORIGINAL) The program according to claim 18, wherein

the consistency state management information is provided for each media object management information, and

the consistency state management information includes, for each extension information, at least information indicating the presence or absence of reference relationship from the extension information to the directory and the file, and information indicating whether or not the consistency of the directory and the file with the extension information corresponding thereto is assured.

20.　(ORIGINAL) The program according to claim 17, wherein

the contents management information includes first update date-and-time information,

the extension information includes second update date-and-time information,

the program comprises an instruction for causing the recording apparatus to execute:

updating the contents management information;

updating the first update date-and-time information; and

setting the same value of that of the first update date-and-time information to the second update date-and-time information of the extension information of a type that can be processed.

21.　(CURRENTLY AMENDED) A program for controlling a reproduction operation of a reproduction apparatus for reproducing information from the recording medium according to claim 10 [[or 11]], the program comprising an instruction for causing the reproduction apparatus to execute:

reproducing the information from the recording medium;

processing the file system information;

processing the extension information; and

processing the contents management information,

wherein the program comprises an instruction for causing the reproduction apparatus to execute, in the step of processing the extension information, determining a procedure for processing the extension information according to a value set in the

consistency state management information before processing the extension information corresponding to the directory and the file.

22. (ORIGINAL) A program for controlling a reproduction operation of a reproduction apparatus for reproducing information from the recording medium according to claim 12, the program comprising an instruction for causing the reproduction apparatus to execute:

reproducing the information from the recording medium;

processing the file system information;

processing the extension information; and

processing the contents management information,

wherein the program comprises an instruction for causing the reproduction apparatus to execute, in the step of processing the extension information, determining a procedure for processing the extension information according to whether or not the first update date-and-time information matches the second update date-and-time information before processing the extension information corresponding to the directory and the file.

23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A program providing medium recording the program according to any ~~one of claims 17 to 22~~ claim 17 on a medium.

24. (ORIGINAL) A data structure recorded on a recording medium, comprising:

file system information for managing contents information recorded on the recording medium as a directory hierarchy structure capable of being referenced using a path name;

contents management information for managing the directory and the file; and

extension information with respect to the directory and the file,

wherein the contents management information includes:

media object management information for referencing the directory and the file using object reference information obtained by converting the path name; and

extended object management information for managing the extension information,

wherein the directory and the file are associated with the extension information via the object reference information.

25.   (ORIGINAL) The data structure according to claim 24, wherein the extended object management information includes consistency state management information for managing a state of the directory and the file with the extension information corresponding thereto.

26.   (ORIGINAL) The data structure according to claim 25, wherein

the consistency state management information is provided for each media object management information, and

the consistency state management information includes, for each extension information, at least information indicating the presence or absence of reference relationship from the extension information to the directory and the file, and information indicating whether or not the consistency of the directory and the file with the extension information corresponding thereto is assured.

27.   (ORIGINAL) The data structure according to claim 24, wherein

the contents management information includes first update date-and-time information,

the extension information includes second update date-and-time information,

when the consistency of the directory and the file with the extension information corresponding thereto is assured, the same value is recorded in the first update date-and-time information and the second update date-and-time information.